

SENATE BILL 3023

By Tracy

AN ACT to enact the Tennessee advanced placement and international baccalaureate diploma incentive program act of 2008 and to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, relative to advanced education courses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new part:

Section 49-1-1201. This part shall be known and may be cited as the "Tennessee advanced placement and international baccalaureate diploma incentive program act of 2008".

Section 49-1-1202. The purpose of this part is to provide access to advanced educational courses and corresponding tests in preparation for admission to and success in a postsecondary educational environment.

Section 49-1-1203. As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Advanced placement course" means a high school preparatory course for a college board advanced placement test that incorporates all topics specified by the college board and the educational testing service on its standard syllabus for a given subject area and is approved by the college board and educational testing service; and

(2) "International baccalaureate diploma program" means an international education program offered by the International baccalaureate organization.

Section 49-1-1204.

(a) The Tennessee advanced placement and international baccalaureate diploma incentive program is hereby established, to be administered by the department of education.

(b) Contingent upon legislative appropriations, and based on criteria established by the department of education, schools participating in the program may be awarded equipment and instructional materials grants for providing advanced placement courses or courses offered under the international baccalaureate diploma program.

(c)

(1) Contingent upon legislative appropriation and the availability of funding, the state may pay in full or on a pro rata basis as determined under subdivision (c)(2) of this section, the cost of the advanced placement test fee or the equivalent test fee under the international baccalaureate diploma program, or both.

(2) The state board of education may create a sliding scale based on family income.

(d) The state board of education is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement this part.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.